What is Proposed?

Hopkins Road and Big Mill Farm Road are both two-lane roads in west Kernersville. The southern section of Big Mill Farm Road is gravel. There are no sidewalks or bicycle facilities along those roads.

This project proposes to widen/extend Big Mill Farm Road and widen Hopkins Road from Business 40/U.S. 421 to West Mountain Street (NC 66), with a new interchange at Business 40/U.S. 421.

The number of lanes needed will be based on traffic forecasts through this area. The improved roads may also include pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

The project is anticipated to have several benefits, including:

- Reduce congestion in downtown Kernersville, South Main Street, and other area roads
- Improve mobility and access to major highways in west Kernersville
- Accommodate economic development expansion within the area

How to Get Involved

There are many ways for the community to get information and provide input on the project.

- Call or email the project team. Contact information is on page 4 of this mailer.
- Visit the project website, www.ncdot.gov/ projects/bigmillfarmhopkins.
- Attend the public meetings that will be held during the planning process. The first meeting is scheduled for August 16.
- Flyers announcing upcoming meetings will be sent to those on the mailing list (to be added, contact Ms. Gresham). The meetings also will be announced on the project website and via newspaper and radio.



Public Meeting - August 16

Date: August 16, 2016

Time: 4—7 p.m., with a presentation at 5 p.m. Location: East Forsyth Middle School, Cafeteria 810 Bagley Drive, Kernersville, NC What to expect: This will be a hands-on workshop. The project team will ask about current issues for those who live in or travel through this area, and how the community currently uses Hopkins Road and Big Mill Farm Road. We will brainstorm with you about what improvements might be most beneficial. No designs will be developed prior to this meeting.



NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Ms. Diane Wilson at (919) 707-6073 or pdwilson1@ncdot.gov as early as possible so that arrangements can be made. Aquellas personas que hablan español y no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan antes de la reunión llamando al 1-800-481-6494.

Project Development Process*

Current Stage: Summer 2016

- Coordinate with agencies
- Public meeting
- Gather information on human and natural environment

Summer - Winter 2016

Data Collection

Project

Initiation

- Traffic counts
- Traffic analysis
- Develop conceptual designs

Spring — Winter 2017

- Designs
- Determine potential impacts
- Public meeting
- Refine designs

Winter 2017 — Spring 2020

- Env. document (anticipate Environmental Assessment) Complete
 - Public hearing
 - Final env. document (anticipate Finding of No Significant Impact)

2020 **—** 2023

Final Steps

Planning

- Final design
- Begin right of way (FY 2021)
- Begin construction (FY 2023)

Kernersville's Previous Study

A feasibility study was completed by the Town of Kernersville in 2008. The 2008 study proposed to widen Hopkins Road and Big Mill Farm Road to four lanes with a median, curb and gutter, and sidewalks. The 2011 Town of Kernersville's adopted Thoroughfare and Street Plan recommends that the NCDOT Complete Street "2-Lane Avenue" street type be used for this project. The final design for this project (number of lanes, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and widening location) has not been determined and will be based on the traffic analysis and input from the public and local officials.

NCDOT's study will revisit the project's purpose and need, collect current data, consider citizens' comments, and evaluate a range of alternatives before selecting a preferred design.

What Has Already Been Done?

Information has been collected on natural resources (streams, wetlands, and endangered species) and human resources (neighborhoods, businesses, and community facilities). We will evaluate this information as we consider possible alternatives for improving these roads.

A letter was mailed to property owners along the Hopkins Road/Big Mill Farm Road corridor in October 2015 notifying them that the project team members may be on their property. This newsletter has been mailed to property owners within a larger study area.

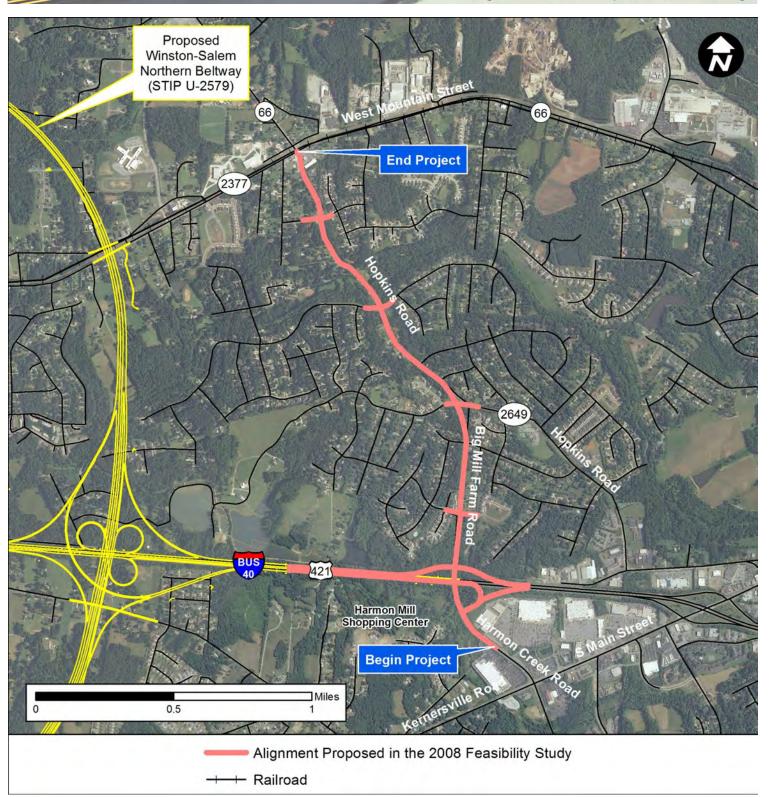
Recent and Upcoming Activities

- April 2016 Begin coordination with local, regional, state, and federal agencies
- August 2016 Hold a hands-on meeting with the public to talk about potential design ideas
- September 2016 Look at conceptual designs

^{*} Dates are from the 2016-2025 STIP and are subject to change

STIP Project U-5760 Kernersville

Big Mill Farm Road/Hopkins Road Widening



NCDOT's Mission: Connecting people, products, and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina.

Project U-5760 c/o Kimley-Horn 421 Fayetteville Street, Suite 600 Raleigh, NC 27601

A <u>public meeting will be held</u> for the proposed project to widen Hopkins Road and widen/extend Big Mill Farm Road to Business 40.

The N.C. Department of Transportation has begun planning and design for the proposed project, listed as Project U-5760 in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

This newsletter is the first of several that will be prepared during the planning process. The purpose of this first newsletter is to notify the community that studies are underway, announce the first public meeting, and to provide general information on the planning process, public involvement opportunities, and the anticipated schedule.

For more information: Project website: www.ncdot.gov/projects/bigmillfarmhopkins

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